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ing the works of all the distinguished philosophers from Bacon and Descartes to Schopenhauer and Hartmann, Prof. Bowen, with all his patience and perseverance, could have mastered only a limited number of them, and that, as was natural, he has probably given us a history of his own reading and thought—the rise and progress of speculation in his own individual mind. And for this we are abundantly thankful. His task has been performed so well that the restriction of it is a recommendation, and we are better instructed and more gratified than if he had expatiated over a wider field. Even had he bestowed on us nothing more than his admirable treatise on Kant, we should have been his perpetual debtors. To one who is not a German scholar Kant cannot be made intelligible in a translation, and we do not know where so complete an explanation of Kant's philosophy can be found in the English language as in Prof. Bowen's five long chapters on that system.

His two chapters on Schopenhauer are extremely interesting as containing an account of the latest development but one of German speculation.

The two concluding chapters of the work—those on Hartmann's "Philosophy of the Unconscious"—are equally interesting, and for a similar reason. He proves that the philosophy of the unconscious is a great improvement upon the doctrine of Schopenhauer, though built on the same foundations. But we cannot go all the way with him when he endeavors to show that Hartmann often approaches the teachings of Christianity. No Christian believes in an unconscious intellect. To all believers an intelligence without consciousness is a contradiction in terms. *Nemo, ceu potius nil, sentet, nisi sentiat se sentire.*

We recommend Prof. Bowen's volume to all students of philosophy as bringing down its history to its latest period, and containing the freshest thought of an avowed Christian philosopher on the great subject.

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- 6.—*Californian Pictures in Prose and Verse.* By BENJAMIN PARKE AVERY. New York: Hurd & Houghton; Cambridge, The Riverside Press. 1878. 8vo, pp. 344.

SOME of the sketches contained in this volume originally appeared in the *Overland Monthly*, but they have been, the author says, "retouched" for this volume. His aim has been, as he modestly says, merely to give a few pictures of California scenery

from Nature, true to local color and form, and barely indicating the "salient characteristics of plant and animal life, and rocky structure." The book consists partly of verse, which, Mr. Avery tells us, makes no poetical pretension. But, whether it does or not, some of it contains much better poetry than is written in verses which make a great deal of such pretension. We have not space to quote, but must refer the reader to the book itself, in proof of the truth of what we say. Mr. Avery's "Pictures" would make, with some revision, a guide-book of a very high order; but the prose style would need a little looking after by some remorseless reviser.

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- 7.—*Money and Legal Tender in the United States.* By H. R. LINDERMAN, Director of the Mint. New York : G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1877. 12mo, pp. x.-173.

IN this little manual Mr. Linderman has collected the laws relating to coinage, legal tender, and the money standard. The information at the present time, when the currency question is undergoing, as it usually does in Congress at least every five years, a thorough reëxamination, is valuable. Mr. Linderman does not share the delusions of the silver agitators, and his opinions on the subject of resumption and silver coinage are such as we could wish every one connected with the financial administration of the country held. He even goes so far as to intimate that the issue of forced paper legal-tender currency by the Government is invalid under the Constitution ; but, as he is aware of the decisions of the Supreme Court on the subject, we hardly understand his position—though, to speak it with reverence, it may be doubted if the Supreme Court itself does.

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- 8.—*Victor Hugo : Histoire d'un Crime—Déposition d'un Témoin.*
I. *Première Journée—Le Guet-apens.* II. *Deuxième Journée—La Lutte.* Paris : CALLMANN LÉVY, éditeur. Ancienne Maison Michel Lévy Frères. 1877. 8vo.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, or even twelve—nay, even five or six—this book would have been regarded on all hands as the most important of the day. It is the narration, by an eye-witness, of the memorable *coup d'état* of 1851, which put Louis Napoleon on the throne of France, and that eye-witness one of the most noted of living Frenchmen. It was written at the time, and by a succession of